

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PARIS 00327 051723Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 HA-05 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 H-01
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R 051713Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3895
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 00327

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: UR, FR
SUBJECT: INFORMATION ON SOVIET DISSIDENTS

1. DAVID CHUDNOVSKY, ONE OF THE NEWER ARRIVALS AMONG THE GROWING SOVIET DISSIDENT COMMUNITY IN PARIS, VISITED EMBASSY TO EXPRESS HIS CONCERN OVER PRESENT STATUS OF PIOTR VINS, MEMBER OF THE UKRAINIAN BRANCH OF SOVIET DISSIDENT HELSINKI WATCH GROUP AND ELDEST SON OF BAPTIST LEADER GEORGIY VINS. CHUDNOVSKY SAID HEALTH OF PIOTR VINS, WHO IS CURRENTLY IN PRISON ON A HUNGER STRIKE, IS DETERIORATING AND DOCTORS HAVE INDICATED THAT IN THE PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES THEY CANNOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR HIS LIFE. HIS MOTHER IS AFRAID HE WILL NOT SURVIVE.

2. CHUDNOVSKY IS IN CONTACT WITH THE PARIS-BASED GROUP CALLED THE "COMMITTEE OF 15". THIS GROUP IS COMPOSED OF AMERICAN AND FRENCH HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIVISTS WHO HAVE "ADOPTED" FIFTEEN SOVIET FAMILIES WHO WISH TO EMIGRATE AND HAVE APPLIED PUBLIC AND PARLIAMENTARY PRESSURES TO HELP THEM. TO DATE 4 OF 15 FAMILIES, INCLUDING CHUDNOVSKY, HAVE LEFT USSR, AND EACH HAS BEEN REPLACED WITH ANOTHER "ADOPTED"

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FAMILY. GROUP'S PRINCIPLE MODUS OPERANDI IS TO ENCOURAGE U.S. CONGRESSMEN AND FRENCH DEPUTIES TO EXPRESS INTEREST IN INDIVIDUAL CASES BY WRITING LETTERS EITHER TO U.S. OR FRENCH EMBASSIES IN MOSCOW OR DIRECT TO SOVIET LEADERS.
HARTMAN

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NNN

Message Attributes

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